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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~OCA 88-0619  
1 March 1988SASC  
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## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing Robert Bell, SASC Staff on ABM Breakout  
Story [ ]

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1. Robert Bell, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, was briefed on 26 February at 11:00 a.m. in Room 7B02 by [ ] SOVA and [ ] OSWR. Mr. Bell requested a briefing on a Wall Street Journal article concerning a Soviet ABM breakout. The briefing was done in preparation for Senator Nunn's appearance on Meet the Press on 28 February. [ ]

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2. Mr. Bell then cited the Wall Street Journal article. The staffers showed him another article on the same subject. The briefing followed the substance of the attached memorandum SOVA and OSWR had prepared on the subject. [ ]

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3. In addition to the substantive briefing, Mr. Bell wanted to know if the Agency had made a statement on this issue. PAO Bill Baker said it had not and was not likely to; Mr. Bell was so informed. Mr. Bell was also interested in a background briefing that a Soviet spokesman provided in Moscow concerning arms control compliance issues. [ ] gave Mr. Bell the relevant facts about the background using a State Department cable as the substantive basis. [ ]

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[ ]  
Senate Division  
Office of Congressional AffairsAttachment  
as stated [ ]

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25 February 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM

[redacted]  
Director of Scientific and Weapons Research

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[redacted]  
Deputy Director of Soviet Analysis

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SUBJECT: New Charges of Soviet Preparations for ABM Breakout [redacted]

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1. Action Required: None. For your information only.

2. Attached is a blind memo that responds to new charges of Soviet preparations to deploy a nationwide ABM defense as carried in yesterday's New York City Tribune and today's Wall Street Journal. It was prepared by Dale [redacted] of our offices and was coordinated with NIO/SP and ACIS. The memo summarizes the two articles, speculates about the origin of their claims, and notes our views on these issues. On the whole, we found little in the two articles with which to agree. [redacted]

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3. As noted in the attached, some--but not all--of the claims in the articles appear to have been drawn in a rather garbled fashion from a briefing given to the NIE 11-3/8 reps on 5 February by a branch chief at the Air Force's Foreign Technology Division. Her briefing was intended to be speculative and to raise or highlight potentially troublesome issues for further analysis and debate by intelligence analysts. It did not represent official Air Force Intelligence positions. Most of the views expressed were based on preliminary analysis, some were personal views on the part of the briefer, and many generated considerably different views on the part of the CIA, DIA, Army, and NSA analysts in attendance. [redacted]

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4. Efforts such as FTD's are useful ways of keeping our analysts thinking along creative lines about important issues and are a device used routinely by the NIO's. [redacted]

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Attachment:

As stated

[redacted]

[redacted]

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SUBJECT: New Charges of Soviet Preparations for ABM Breakout [ ]

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D/SOVA/SIG/SP [ ] (25 Feb 88)

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10 - SOVA/SIG - [ ]

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